**PATENTS** 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE cation of: STILLWAGON ET AL.

Serial No: 08/106,436 Art Unit:

3508

Filed:

August 13, 1993

Examiner:

Dino, S.

For:

POST LATCHING SYSTEMS

## SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D. C. 20231

JUL 1 7 750

Sir:

Preliminary to the first Office Action and subsequent to the first Preliminary Amendment dated March 10, 1994, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

## In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 5-7, 10, 20 and 28 by adding the underlined sections and deleting the sections in brackets ([]):

1. (Twice Amended) A latching apparatus comprising:

a post member defining,

an elongated axis,

an elongated, axially extending latching surface defined by at least one outer radius from said elongated axis, and an elongated, axially extending releasing surface defined by at least one inner radius from said elongated axis, wherein said outer radius is greater than said inner radius;

a latching assembly defining a passage for receiving said post member and including a grip means extending at least partially into said passage for,

effecting a grip between said post member and said latching

assembly when safe grip fiteans [engages] cooperates with said latching surface, and

